

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

TWO NEW GRASSES FROM FLORIDA AND TEXAS.

BY JASON R. SWALLEN



The species described below include a new *Panicum* collected by W. A. Silveus at Bonita Springs, Florida, and a new *Paspalum* collected by Gerald O. Mott near Port Lavaca, Texas.

***Panicum pinetorum* Swallen, sp. nov.**

Culmi 55-65 cm. alti, graciles, glabri; vaginae internodiis breviores, glabrae vel infimae appresso-pilosae; ligula 0.2-0.5 mm. longa, dense ciliata; laminae 6-9 cm. longae, 2-3 mm. latae, planae vel involutae, glabrae; paniculae 7-9 cm. longae, 2-3 cm. latae, ramis adscendentibus usque ad 3 cm. longis; spiculae 2.3-2.5 mm. longae, acutae, pubescentes; gluma prima 0.7-1 mm. longa, subobtusata, glabra; lemma fertile 1.6-1.7 mm. longum, suborbiculatum vel obovatum, glabrum, lucidum; culmi autumnales erecti vel decumbentes, ramosissimi, laminis involutis non reductis, paniculis parvis, paucifloris, 1 cm. longis, inter folia occultis.

Vernal culms 55 to 65 cm. tall, slender, erect, glabrous; sheaths shorter than the internodes, glabrous or the lowermost appressed pilose; ligule densely ciliate, 0.2 to 0.5 mm. long; blades 6 to 9 cm. long, 2 to 3 mm. wide, flat or soon becoming involute in drying, glabrous; panicles 7 to 9 cm. long, 2 to 3 cm. wide, the branches ascending, not more than 3 cm. long, usually less; spikelets 2.3 to 2.5 mm. long, the second glume and sterile lemma pointed beyond the fruit, pubescent; first glume 0.7 to 1 mm. long, subobtusate, glabrous; fruit 1.6 to 1.7 mm. long, suborbiculate or slightly obovate, smooth and shining; autumnal phase erect or top-heavy reclining, freely branching, the blades involute, not much reduced, the panicles small, few-flowered, about 1 cm. long, partly included in the sheath, obscured by the foliage.

Type in the herbarium of the U. S. National Arboretum no. 145,101 collected in open pine woods near Bonita Springs, Florida, October 14, 1940, by W. A. Silveus (no. 6604).

This species suggests *Panicum fusiforme* Hitchc. in having the second glume and sterile lemma pointed well beyond the fruit. The spikelets in *P. fusiforme*, however, are much larger, 3-3.5 mm. long, more attenuate at the base, and the fruit is 2.5 mm. long. The panicle is also wider and more open with widely spreading branches.

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***Paspalum texanum* Swallen, sp. nov.**

Culmi 70–110 cm. alti, erecti, glabri, rhizomatosi; vaginae elongatae internodiis multo longiores, glabrae vel papilloso-hirsutae, vagina suprema efoliata; ligula 2–4 mm. longa, membranacea, fusca; laminae elongatae usque ad 50 cm. longae, 2–6 mm. latae, planae, papillosae vel papilloso-hirsutae; racemi 4–6, 6–9 cm. longi adscendentes vel appressi; rachis 1–1.5 mm. lata; spiculae binae, 2.4–2.7 mm. longae, 1.4–1.6 mm. latae, glabrae; gluma secunda et lemma sterile rugosum tenuia, fusca; lemma fertile 2.3–2.4 mm. longum, fuscum, minute striato-sabrum.

Culms 70 to 110 cm. tall, erect from long relatively strong rhizomes, glabrous; sheaths elongate, much longer than the internodes, glabrous or papillose-hirsute toward the summit and on the collar, flattened and keeled at least toward the summit, the uppermost one bladeless, nearly reaching the base of the inflorescence; ligule brown, membranaceous, 2 to 4 mm. long; blades elongate, as much as 50 cm. long, 2 to 6 mm. wide, flat, papillose or papillose-hirsute on both surfaces, especially near the base, with no tuft of long hairs back of the ligule; racemes 4 to 6, 6 to 9 cm. long, ascending or appressed, the common axis 6 to 13 cm. long, hairy in the axils; rachis 1 to 1.5 mm. wide, straight or sometimes flexuous; spikelets usually paired, 2.4 to 2.7 mm. long, 1.4 to 1.6 mm. wide, oval or narrowly obovate, glabrous, the pedicels often as much as 2 mm. long; second glume and sterile lemma thin, brownish, covering the fruit or sometimes slightly pointed beyond it, the lemma usually cross wrinkled inside the margins; fruit 2.3 to 2.4 mm. long, chestnut brown at maturity, minutely scabrous in lines.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium no. 1614874 collected on grassland seven miles north of Port Lavaca, Calhoun County, Texas, October 24, 1935, by Gerald O. Mott (no. 261).

*Paspalum texanum* belongs to the *Plicatula* group, related rather closely to *P. wrightii* Hitchc. & Chase of the West Indies. The latter is stouter, much more succulent, and rhizomes are not evident in available material. The racemes are closer together on the axis, on the average longer and more numerous, with the rachis about 2 mm. wide. The ligule is only 1 mm. long with the blades bearing a tuft of long hairs just back of the ligule. In addition to the type, this species has also been found at College Port, Matagorda County (Tharp 7272), and near La Ward, Jackson County (Muñoz 1209).